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JUS REC'D PCT/TTO 19 SEP 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Shunichi SHIOZAWA et al.

: Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. NEW

: Docket No. 2001\_1298A

Filed September 19, 2001

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS GENE AND METHOD  
FOR DIAGNOSING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP00/01697 Filed March 21, 2000]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as

follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, immediately after the title, please insert:

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP00/01697 filed March 21, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

*Sub 7  
10/10/01*  
Claim 3. (Amended) A DNA fragment, which is a part of the disease gene of claim 1, and contains the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

Claim 6. (Amended) An antibody against the protein of claim 4.

*Sub  
B11*

Claim 7. (Amended) A method for diagnosing rheumatoid arthritis, comprising the detection of the mRNA from the disease gene of claim 1, in a biological specimen.

*Please add the following new claims:*

9. A DNA fragment, which is a part of the cDNA of claim 2, and contains the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

10. An antibody against the peptide of claim 5.

*Sub  
B10*

11. A method for diagnosing rheumatoid arthritis, comprising the detection of the mRNA from the protein of claim 4, in a biological specimen.

**REMARKS**

The specification has been revised to reflect the 371 status. In addition, the multiple dependencies of the claims have been removed to reduce the PTO filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

Respectfully submitted,

Shunichi SHIOZAWA et al.

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September 19, 2001